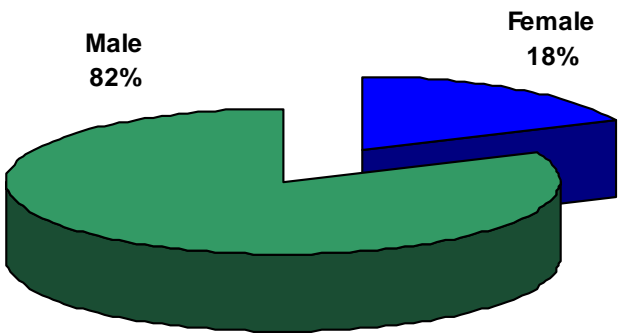


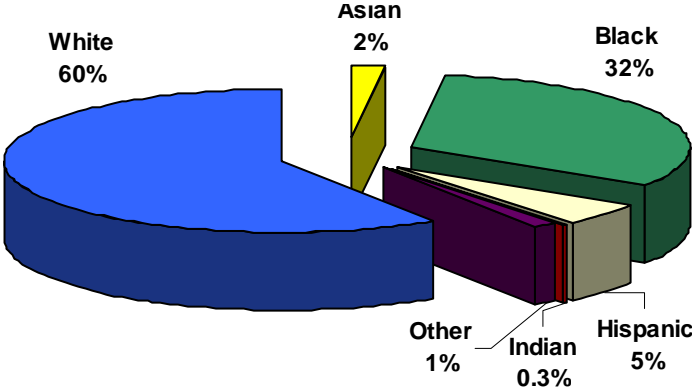
Accidental Drownings in Virginia from 1997 through 2006

There have been 1129 drownings in Virginia from 1997-2006; of these, 973 or 86.2% of them have been accidents. The vast majority have been males (82%). Sixty percent of the accidents have been whites.

Accidental Drownings by Gender, 1997-2006

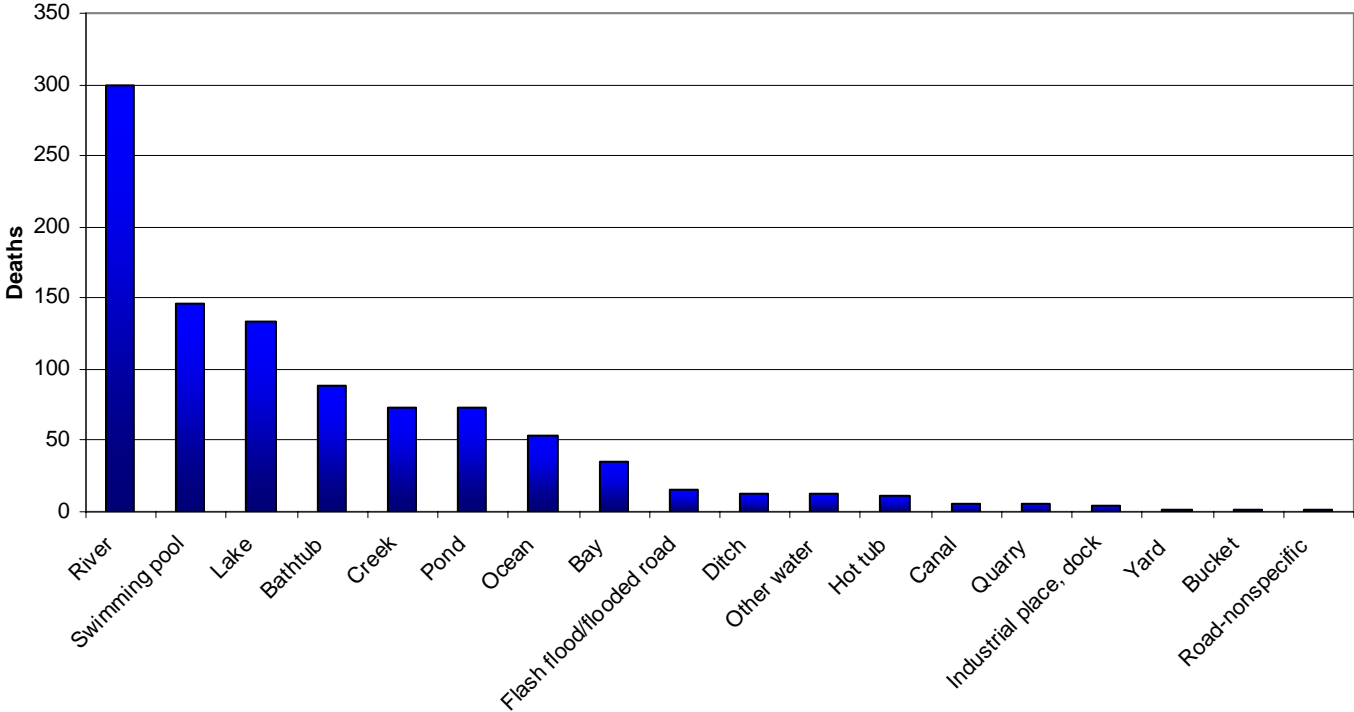


Accidental Drownings by Race/Ethnicity, 1997-2006



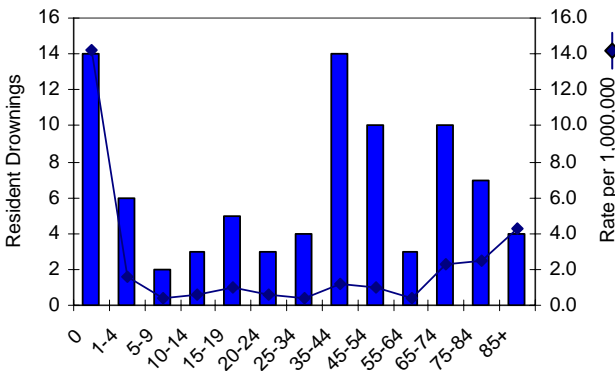
Almost 70% of accidental drowning occurred in a natural body of water such as a river or bay while the remaining were some type of man-made structure such as a bathtub or quarry or atypical or non-permanent body of water such as a ditch or a flashflood. These varied locations demonstrate the varied circumstances leading up to drownings such as boating accidents, flash flood events, unattended children, motor vehicle collisions, etc. Swimming ability status could not be accurately analyzed and therefore was not included.

Premise of Accidental Drowning Events, 1997-2006

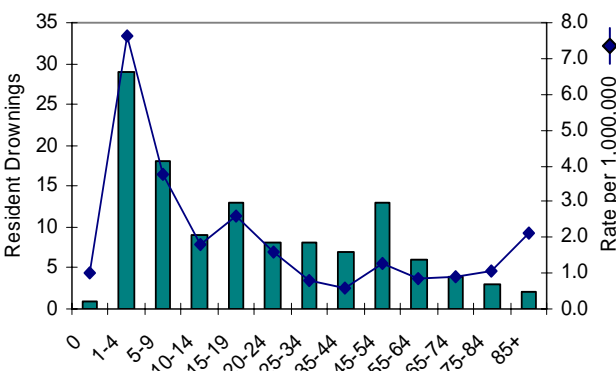


Of the 973 accidental drownings, 854 or 87.8% of the drownings were Virginia residents. Looking at specific premises for VA residents, it becomes apparent that certain age groups can be at higher risk than others. Accidental bathtub drownings had the highest rate (14.3 per 1,000,000) among infants less than 1 year of age and then began to rise in the elderly population. Swimming pools had the highest drowning rates with the younger age ranges of 1-4 and 5-9 years old. Drownings resulting from a weather event demonstrated that anyone at any age is at risk for this type of drowning. Finally, rivers showed a normal distribution with the higher rates starting from the 10-14 year olds through the 75-84 year olds.

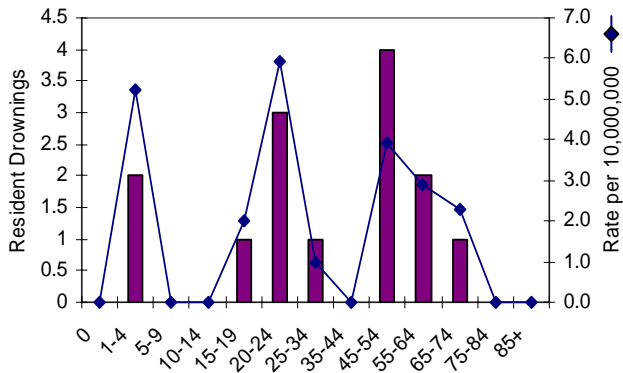
Bathtubs



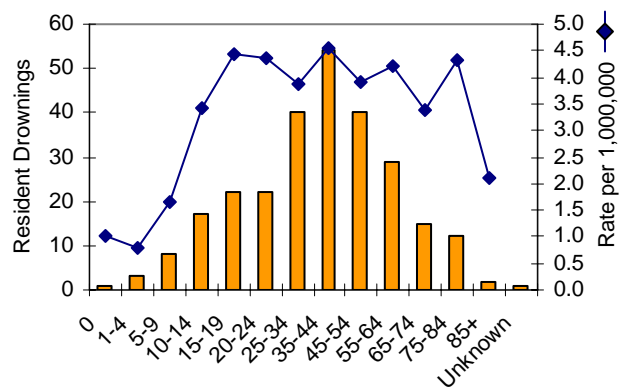
Swimming Pools



Flash Flood Conditions

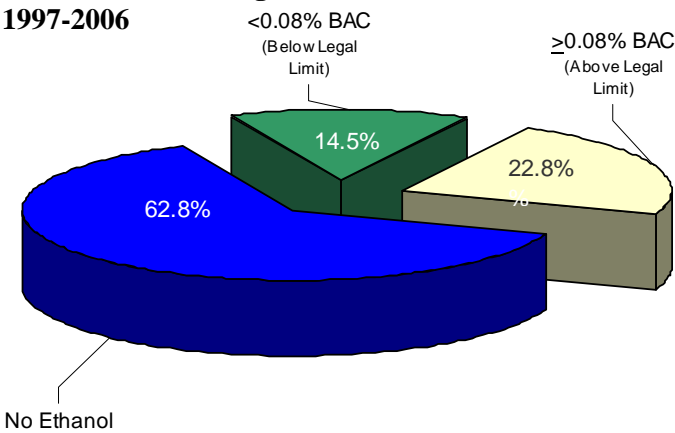


Rivers

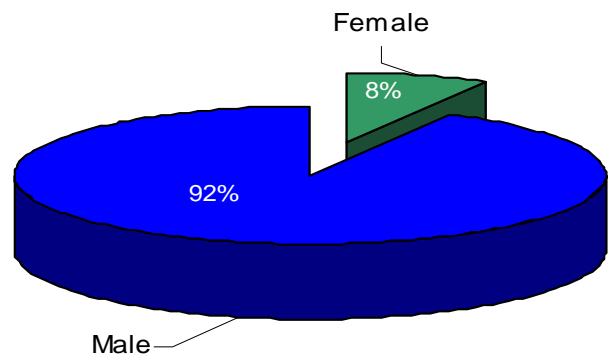


Ethanol was detected in the blood of 37% or 363 of all accidental drownings (n=973). Twenty-two percent of the accidental cases were at or above the Virginia legal limit of 0.08% weight/volume (W/V) (for operating a motor vehicle). Of the cases in which ethanol was detected, males accounted for 92% of the cases.

Accidental Drownings with or without Ethanol Detected, 1997-2006

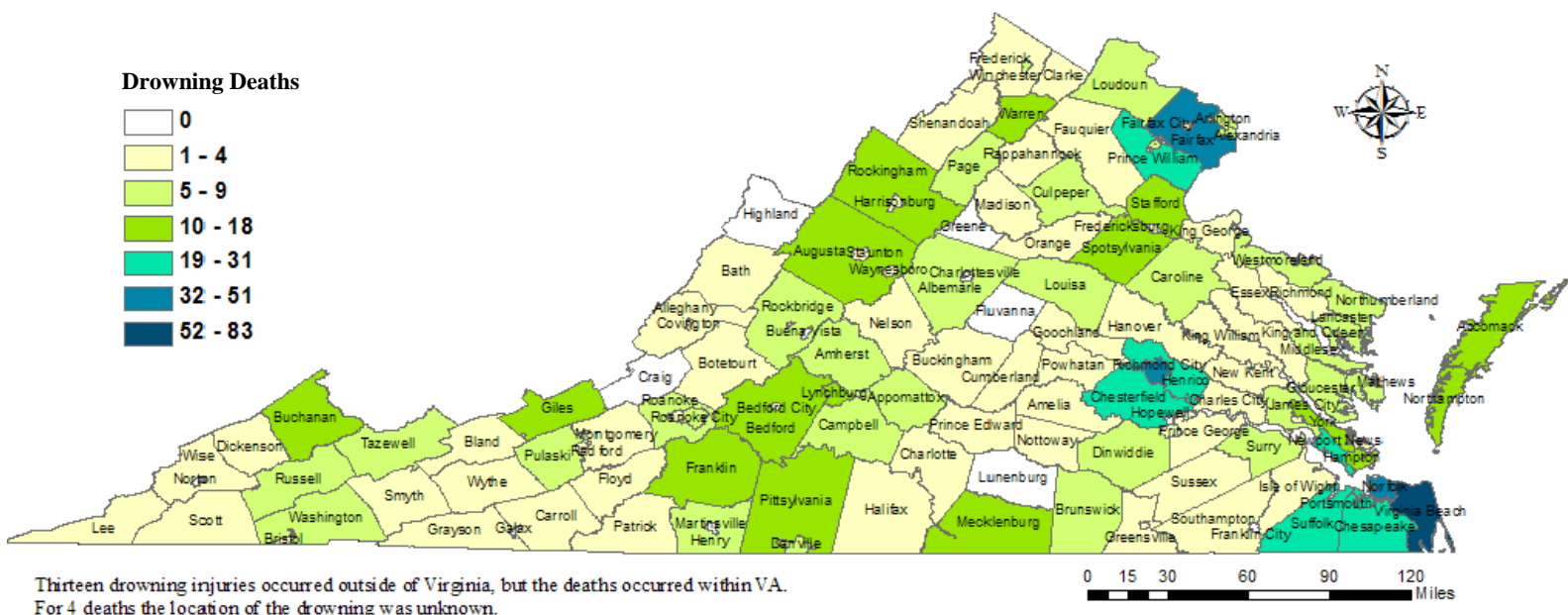


Gender of Accidental Drownings with Ethanol Detected, 1997-2006



Over the 10 year period, most counties and independent cities have had an accidental drowning within their borders. Not surprisingly, some of the highest numbers of accidental drownings correspond with the higher populated areas such as Fairfax and Virginia Beach counties and Richmond city.

Accidental Drownings Deaths, 1997-2006



### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- <http://www.vahealth.org/civp/Topics/drowning.asp>
- <http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/factsheets/drown.htm>
- [http://www.helpkeepkidssafe.org/pt\\_tips\\_wat.html](http://www.helpkeepkidssafe.org/pt_tips_wat.html)
- <http://www.boatsafe.com/Virginia/>
- [http://www.healthsystem.virginia.edu/uvahealth/adult\\_pediatrics/watersafe.cfm](http://www.healthsystem.virginia.edu/uvahealth/adult_pediatrics/watersafe.cfm)